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Dry Bones



IDF watching Syrian troop movements

THE Syrian army has continued with its unusual troop movements in Lebanon and Syria, and the IDF is closely watching the redeployment because it is unlike anything it has seen for a long time.

Reports from Lebanon said Syrian troops had pulled out of several positions in and around Beirut which they have occupied for years. Syria has about 30,000 troops in Lebanon.

Lebanese mountains. Lebanese security sources said it was a defensive move, following perceived threats that Israel was going to attack.

IDF intelligence analysts do not believe the redeployment indicates a dramatic change in Syrian assessment or that it is preparing an attack.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told The Jerusalem Post yesterday that Syria would be making "a grave mistake" if it decides to go to war.

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and news agencies

"I think Syria has an interest in peace and stability as much as we do, and I think any such action on the part of Syria would be precipitous and unwise and certainly not in the interest of Syria and certainly not in the interest of peace," Netanyahu said.

There were reports that planes believed to be Israeli flew over south Lebanon.

Beirut and Baalbek in eastern Lebanon yesterday, breaking the sound barrier in some areas. No air raids were reported.

Reuter reported that half a dozen trucks piled high with Syrian soldiers, bedding and furniture moved north along the seafont Corniche promenade in west Beirut. A large tent encampment, one of the most visible symbols of Syria's military presence in Beirut since 1987, was gone, Reuter said, as well as two other camps.

In the past few days, Syrian troops have abandoned a number of other sites, including their positions near the presidential palace at Baabda. But despite the pullouts, Syrian troops are still stationed in Beirut and its suburbs, and are highly visible in some areas.

According to the London-based newsletter Foreign Report, Syrian army engineers are also reported to be working "feverishly" to build combat positions in (Continued on Page 20)

- In today's issue: ★ Weekend Magazine ★ Time Out ★ Rosh Hashana supplement ★ Real estate supplement ★ New Year's calendar by Oleg

Rosh Hashana 5757 The management and staff of The Jerusalem Post wish their readers and the entire House of Israel a year of health, peace and happiness. Shana Tova.

Rosh Hashana begins tonight

HAIM SHAPIRO and BILL HUTMAN

IT might seem as if everyone is going away for the holidays, but the overwhelming majority of Israelis will be at home during Rosh Hashana, the beginning of the Hebrew year, which begins tonight and continues through Sunday.

According to a survey conducted by the Telesker research institute, 51 percent of Israelis intend to spend the holiday in their own (Continued on Page 20)



Ruti Nahmani and her lawyer, Ziv Gruber, embrace after yesterday's Supreme Court decision.

Expanded Supreme Court ruling gives Ruti Nahmani chance for motherhood

RUTI Nahmani may use eggs fertilized in vitro by her estranged husband to have a child, even though her husband objects, the Supreme Court said yesterday in a 7-4 ruling which overturned its own earlier decision on the matter.

"I dreamed about [having a baby] every day," said a deliriously happy Ruti after the hearing. "It's a new beginning for me... Each baby that comes because of my fight, it's my baby - so I will have many babies. But now I will have my own baby [as well]."

The eggs, which until now Ruti has been barred from using, represented her last chance to have a child of her own. She is unable to produce more eggs.

EVELYN GORDON

"Not being a mother hurts more than being father to a child whom you are not sure at the minute whether you want or not," the 42-year-old woman said. "The pain of the absence is greater than that of the presence... What [my husband] did to me was, in a sense, to take from me the thing that was most important to me."

"Ruti is a wonderful woman," added her beaming lawyer, Ziv Gruber, as she was enthusiastically hugged by a young niece. "She deserves to be a mother, and children deserve to be born to a mother like this."

Ruti and Danny Nahmani made legal history for the first time in 1988, when they embarked on a

successful court battle for the right to have her eggs fertilized in vitro with his sperm and then implanted in a surrogate mother in the US. Ruti was unable to bear children herself. In 1992, however - after the eggs had been fertilized, but before they were delivered to the surrogate - Danny left Ruti and moved in with another woman, with whom he has since had a child. He then told Ruti he no longer wanted a child by her, and denied Assuta Hospital permission to release the eggs.

Ruti filed suit in Haifa District Court, which ruled in her favor, and Danny then appealed to the Supreme Court. His appeal was supported by Attorney-General (Continued on Page 20)

Iraq, US head for another confrontation

BAGHDAD (AP) - A new US-Iraqi showdown appeared imminent yesterday as the Americans sent more aircraft to the Gulf, Iraq claimed a missile attack on "enemy warplanes" and both countries traded harsh recriminations. Turkey is providing aircraft to help the US airlift 2,500

Americans, Kurds and Iraqi dissidents out of northern Iraq, Ankara's ambassador to Washington said yesterday. The US will move the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise from the Adriatic into the Red Sea within days, US defense officials said yesterday. Earlier report story, Page 8

PM: Rabin's unofficial agreements aren't binding

DAVID MAKOVSKY

YITZHAK Rabin made a "hypothetical" promise to the US to withdraw from the Golan to the June 4, 1967 borders, assuming other conditions were met, but neither this nor an unsigned paper on principles of security arrangement reached in 1995 are binding on the new government, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu told The Jerusalem Post in a Rosh Hashana interview.

Here are some of the other highlights of the interview, which appears on Page 9:

- On Hebron, Netanyahu said: "We are not seeking to toss out the agreement on Hebron or to alter many of its central features. We are seeking modifications" to help the Jews living in the city. • Netanyahu suggested that he would personally boycott European foreign ministers who visit the Orient House. • Israel has no plans to release Hamas religious leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin.

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Summer time ends Sunday SUMMER time will end at midnight between Sunday and Monday. At that time, clocks will be turned back one hour, to 23:00 hours.

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Table with 3 columns: SHABBAT, BEGINS, ENDS. Locations: Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Haifa, Beersheba, Eilat.









Israelis remanded for 8 days after Cyprus escape

NICOSIA (Reuters) - Four Israelis were remanded in custody in Cyprus yesterday, one day after a daring but short-lived escape from police detention in the Turkish-held north of the island.



Shuki Samana (right) and Avi Biton (center) are taken into a Nicosia courthouse where they were remanded yesterday.

Police kill fugitive who ran TA roadblock

THE Justice Ministry's Police Investigations division is looking into the killing of an escaped prisoner, Ziv Bara, by a policeman yesterday morning.

RAINE MARCUS

Following a kilometer-long chase through the streets of south Tel Aviv, Bara, 27, of Bar Yam, was shot by one of two policemen, after he tried to run them over, ignored red lights and tried to run the police van off the road, the policemen said.

Bara was positively identified several hours after his death by his fingerprints.

The incident occurred just after 5 a.m. while Bara was driving a vehicle which belongs to a man who runs an unofficial center for wayward teenagers and drug addicts in the Neve Tzedek area.

Shoval said that after a preliminary inquiry and speaking to the policemen involved, he is convinced that Bara tried to run them over. The two patrolmen then got into their van and a chase began.

police van off the road, the policemen opened fire, severely injuring Bara. He was taken to Ichilov Hospital, where he died of his wounds.

Bara had been serving a four-and-a-half-year term for fraud charges and was a known drug addict. He was due for release in January 1997. In July, he received a 48-hour furlough and failed to return.

As in all cases in which someone is killed by police, the case has been transferred to the Justice Ministry's police investigations division, which will determine if shooting by the police was justified.

Shoval said that he is convinced the patrolmen acted correctly. "The driver endangered lives and someone could have been easily killed," he said.

Paris Air Show woos local defense contractors

VISITING organizers of the Paris Air Show, yesterday pitched local defense contractors to participate in what they called the largest air exhibition in the world.

STEVE RODAN

Altogether 31,856 visitors arrived from 144 countries. They included 3,048 journalists. Israel will have its own trade pavilion on the south side of the giant exhibition.

Gurevitz, director of the fairs and exhibitions division of the Israel Export Institute, which is organizing the Israeli pavilion.

Gurevitz said the Israeli pavilion will be 2,000 square meters and cost \$1 million, 75 percent of which will be paid for by the companies in the exhibition.

Organizers of the Paris Air Show are taking their pitch to

NEWS IN BRIEF

4 Lebanese charged with security offenses

Four Lebanese nationals were charged in Tel Aviv District Court yesterday with involvement in trying to kidnap another Lebanese citizen. They were charged with conspiracy to aid the enemy in time of war, and with giving information to an enemy with the intent of damaging national security.

Slight drop in terror fatalities

The number of Israelis killed in terror attacks declined slightly in the third full year since mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO on September 9, 1993. Peace Watch reported yesterday.

Ministry suggests precautions for cleaning fish

The Health Ministry yesterday urged the public to wear protective gloves when cleaning fish - especially ammon (St. Peter's) fish - to avoid infection by Vibrio bacteria.

Faithful files petition against Mount building

The Temple Mount Faithful yesterday petitioned the High Court of Justice to issue a restraining order against the illegal construction by the Waqf on the Temple Mount.

Internet 'Post' offers multimedia holiday greeting

THE Jerusalem Post's Internet Edition has become the first on-line news service to offer an animated, multimedia holiday greeting. One click and the proper downloaded software produces five dancing frogs, which sing a Rosh Hashana song in Hebrew before diving into their pond.

Dieticians offer advice on how not to gain weight during the holidays

IT'S possible to enjoy the upcoming holidays without gaining weight, according to the Israel Dieticians Association, which on the eve of Rosh Hashana issued guidelines for doing so.

Advertisement for Yonina Jacobs School of Healing, featuring energy healing courses and contact information.

Large advertisement for Ophir Tours, featuring a grid of travel packages to various international destinations like New York, London, Paris, and Egypt.

Advertisement for INTERSYSTEM, offering bookcases with dust-protecting glass doors and contact information.

Advertisement for WHY HASSLE?, providing American appliances and international movers services.

Advertisement for Yeshivat Sha'alvim, announcing a memorial lecture by Rabbi Professor Abraham J. Twerski, MD.

Advertisement for THE LAROMME JERUSALEM HOTEL, highlighting succahs and festive meals during Sukkot.

Advertisement for VISIT HEBRON DURING SUKKOT, inviting visitors to explore Jewish history and national roots.

Vertical text on the far left edge, including "1996 The Jerusalem Post" and "on IDF..."

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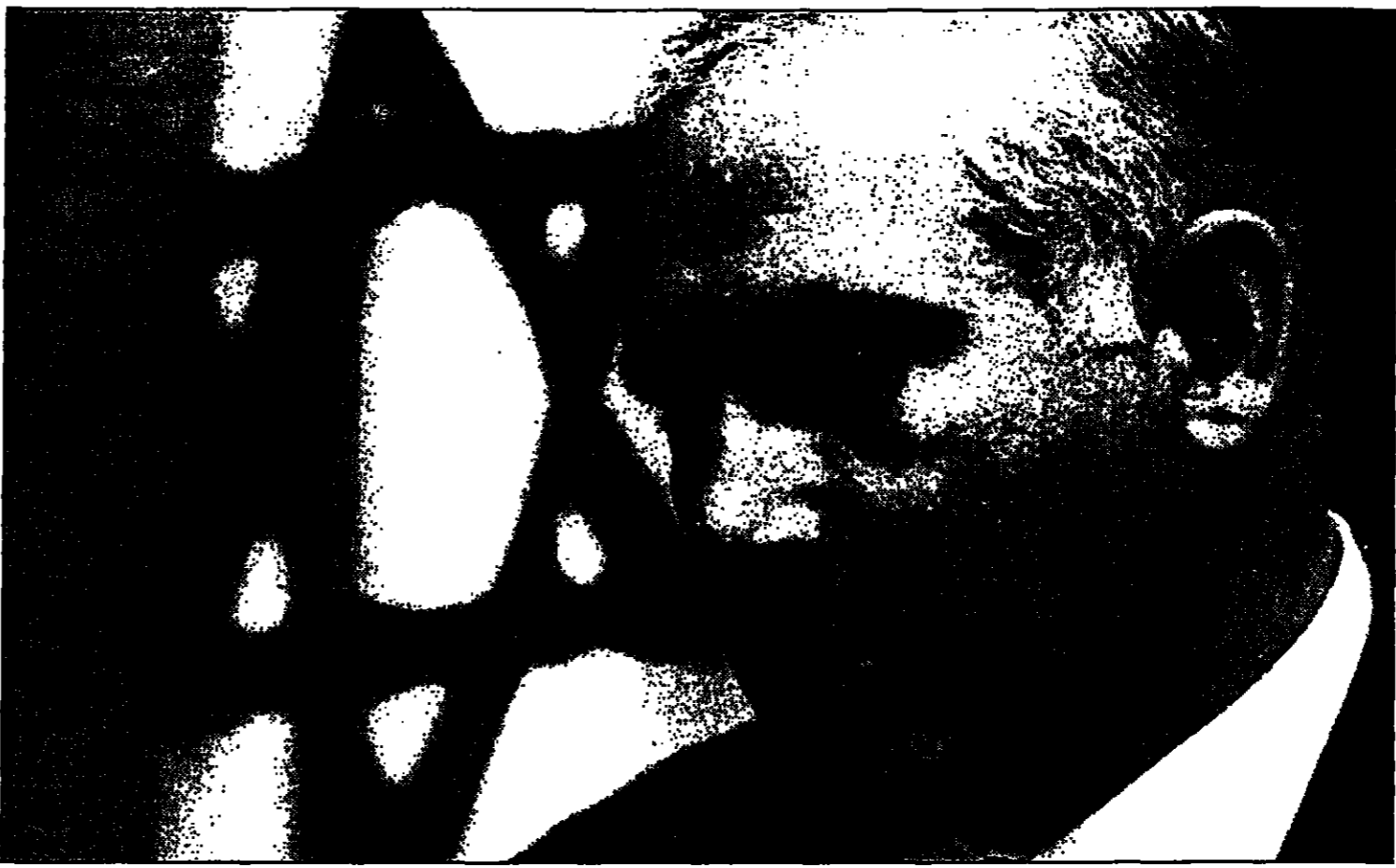


# NEWS IN FOCUS

Friday, September 13, 1996

## 'We're not seeking to toss out Hebron agreement'

Prime Minister **Binyamin Netanyahu**, in a Rosh Hashana interview with **David Makovsky**, insists his government will meet its commitments, in both the diplomatic and economic arenas



It would take over eight years. So what we are going to do when we decide is gradually reduce the foreign workers and gradually increase the Palestinian workers, but there is one proviso. You cannot overnight create such removal of workers; A - The various industries have to adjust; B - We need a mechanism, both legal and practical, to remove the workers and that's why we instructed the government ministries to do precisely that, and we are now going to receive a plan that will explain, in record time - in two weeks - how to take action against illegal foreign workers. One thousand a month for eight years? Two hundred months. It will take too long. I don't want to say it until I've heard, but I think that target is too low.

### Meeting with Arafat

**Q:** What was going through your mind last week while you were sitting with the man you said you'd never meet - Yasser Arafat?

**A:** Quite a few things, but I'll leave that to my memoirs.

You won't give us a little glimpse into your thoughts?

I was thinking about the past and the many Israelis and Jews who lost their lives to terrorist attacks launched by the PLO. And at least I hoped and felt and wanted to believe that they indeed are moving towards a differently reality in the relationship. This is our purpose, and this is what we agreed is the standard we will hold the PLO accountable to. And time will tell if we shall succeed.

Now that the taboo has been broken, can you now see regular meetings between the two of you?

Well, we discussed this matter and Arafat suggested that we discuss matters that are not resolved by subordinates.

I said let's not make their life too easy for them. Let's not make their life too easy and let them start throwing up everything, every other problem, to the senior level. I thought we should reserve that contact for the truly important or urgent things.

But you could pick up the phone if an urgent issue comes up, now that the ice has been broken.

If necessary, of course we shall do it.

Put the landmark meeting in a historic context with regard to what it means for the Likud.

The landmark was caused before, in that we made a decision before the elections to abide by the signed agreements of the existing government, assuming of course, reciprocity. Once that decision was taken, the meeting with Arafat was merely a derivative result.

It seems there are now two camps in the Likud: the pragmatic camp and the ideological camp. Some say it's only a matter of time before you're going to have to face down such ideologues as Ariel Sharon, Ze'ev Begin, and Rafael Eitan. Do you agree?

Look, we have already had many discussions on this matter. It's not the first time we are dealing with the question of how to

handle existing agreements. For example, way before Oslo, the first Likud convention after I was elected, in fact simultaneous to my election, we had a debate precisely on this point... It seems to me that as part of the responsibilities of leading the government is to honor the international commitments of your predecessors.

Otherwise, there's no point in making international agreements. They would be eviscerated of any meaning, and this is something that I will insist on and this government will follow and anyone who is a member of this government will have to align themselves with [this].

### Hebron

On one hand, you talk about your adherence to past agreements and you certainly expect the Palestinians to live up to what they signed, yet on the other hand, you say Israel can modify what it signed regarding Hebron.

No, on the contrary, that's not what I'm saying at all. I said that our fulfillment of the agreement depends on two things. One, reciprocity and two, security. Security is the foundation of all agreements. If in the application of the agreements, you collapse security, then you collapse the agreements, which is essentially what happened with the previous government.

What we seek is not to violate the Hebron agreement, but to carry it out in a responsible way, in a way that the arrangements on the ground will be able to endure and not crumble before renewed bouts of terrorism. And remember, I said to Arafat that I think that is not only our interest, but it's a Palestinian interest as well.

We are not seeking to toss out the agreement on Hebron or to alter many of its central features. We are seeking modifications that will enable the Jewish community, the oldest Jewish community in the world, to live relatively normal lives and live in greater safety and greater security.

What aspect of the agreement as it exists now do you find to be untenable? If one looks at the map of Oslo 2, there is territorial contiguity between the Jewish areas in Hebron and between Hebron and Kiryat Arba. Your opponents, like Labor MK Ehud Barak and others, say that in the

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu: This year our principal task is to move ahead in the negotiations for peace with the Palestinians.

end you will only make cosmetic changes, and it will end up being essentially the same agreement. Well, we shall see.

Would you say the changes are going to be fundamental?

There will be modifications which I think are important. I don't want to say that we are going to toss out the agreement in many of its principle areas, because that's not my point. My point is not to obstruct progress, it's to facilitate it...

I think that the defense minister has suggested some modifications and we'll take it up with the Palestinians. I think they need to understand that our preference is generally constructive and not intended to divorce ourselves from commitments that were taken by the previous government.

Do you see this done within three weeks, a month?

One thing I don't do is I don't put a stopwatch to our negotiations with the Palestinians. I would put a clear table of results that I want to achieve, and the schedule follows the results, not the other way around.

### Sheikh Yassin

Internal Security Minister Avidor Kahalani seemed to hint that Israel is going to release Hamas religious leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin. Is that right?

No. No immediate plans in that regard. It is a function of our assessment of his health. And his health is assessed by relevant

medical personnel to be better than is commonly reported in the press. So long as he's healthy, he stays in prison?

Well, he is serving his time. I'm not so sure it's a good idea to make hasty decisions on this point. Such decisions could come back and haunt us.

### Palestinian economic progress and political moderation

Do you believe there is a correlation between Palestinian economic progress and their political moderation?

There is. It's not a one-to-one [ratio]. Economic progress is not a substitute for political solutions. And also, economic progress is not going to ensure political moderation. It can ameliorate a situation. It can prevent the recruitment of people who otherwise would not be radical in nature, but it is not going to alter the basic radical core that exists, whose agenda is political, religious, or ideological, rather than economic. The most fanatic leaders of any movement are not all poor. This is rule No. 1 in the history of radicalism.

Sources say that after you were elected, General Security Service head Ami Ayalon briefed you and said that Israeli-Palestinian security cooperation cannot exist in a vacuum, and if there was not progress on the political dialogue, the security cooperation was bound to deteriorate.

We will not continue under the threat of terrorism. The threat of terrorism will be the first thing that will cause us to reconsider the wisdom of such negotiations, because if peace is purchased only as a temporary hiatus between bouts of terrorism, we'll never have peace. So I said to Arafat that the treatment of his actions against terrorism must be a constant and not a variable in our relationship.

You keep saying you will increase the number of Palestinian workers, given the security situation. But some say it's not a security issue since this situation has improved, but rather it more a function of the fact there are 100,000 illegal foreign workers, not to mention the 100,000 legal foreign workers and therefore there are not enough jobs for Palestinians. Moreover, they say Israel does not have the enforcement capability to expel so many illegals.

We said we'd ease up the closure, and in fact in the two-three months that we've been in government, we've doubled the number of Palestinian workers that can work in Israel from 25,000 to 50,000.

Secondly, the security arms say that additional easing of the closure is possible, but they insist on very careful gradation on this, because no one is sure what will provide security and what will not. In any case, our policy is not use the closure as a means of political pressure on the PA.

As far as the problems, even though we've opened up the numbers, it's true the Palestinian workers are finding it hard to find jobs because of the enormous explosion of foreign workers. Two years ago, we had 10,000 foreign workers in Israel. Now we have at least a quarter of a million and possible more. This is our cautious assessment. Now this has potentially devastating consequences.

Foreign workers can import their families, or they can intermarry locally, creating an entrenched cultural clash, a wealth of problems, an enormous amount of problems. So it's our interest wherever possible to replace illegal foreign immigrants with Palestinian workers who return to their own towns and villages at the end of the day.

Will you expel the 100,000? There was an interministerial panel that recommended expelling 1,000 a month, but at this rate, assuming no new arrivals, which is questionable,

### Arafat's Tel Aviv bank account

At the request of Arafat, Israel has diverted about NIS 200 million over the last two years to a Bank Leumi account in Tel Aviv, which is used for Arafat's discretionary spending and operates outside of the budgetary process.

Well, this is an issue that the Palestinians have to determine for themselves. We have an agreement to provide certain sums to them. They can stipulate where it goes. It's a matter for them to be concerned with.

### Settlements

Do you think Israel can unilaterally expand settlements without a Palestinian backlash? There's an idea of maybe doing a quid pro quo, further redeployment, as stipulated by Oslo 2, in return for settlement activity in the 7 percent of the territories where 75 percent of the settlers live.

I don't think it's subject to a deal. I think there are many areas in which, in fact, we will have package arrangements, but we've agreed to defer the question of settlements to the final settlement, and remember that Yitzhak Rabin's exposition after Oslo 2, and later [Foreign Ministry legal adviser] Joel Singer, who drafted the agreement, specifically stated that Oslo doesn't place any limitations on new or existing settlement activity. It's one of those things where I fully agree with Oslo.

(Continued on Page 20)

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# Ehud Barak: Labor's answer to Netanyahu?

As Netanyahu's former commander, he might not like the comparison, but Barak now seems to be following in the PM's footsteps, writes Sarah Honig

**L**ABOR'S Ehud Barak is a relative newcomer to politics. As one who has not been embroiled in any of Israel's notoriously bloody internecine political brawls, he is by virtue of his lack of experience relatively clean. Thus far he has earned no demerits for conduct.

Sifting through the thin file of his political utterances, it is hard to find anything overly nasty or glaringly below the belt. So it was surprising that he should of all things be so severely taken to task for having evinced very bad manners, if not outright callousness, when he threw his hat into the Labor leadership ring last Monday.

What may escalate into a very bitter battle for Labor's primacy got off to an odd start this week with a controversy over etiquette.

Barak's detractors charged that it was awfully bad form for him to have pulled the stunt he did just when Shimon Peres was abroad. Barak insisted that he told Peres and got his OK. Peres and his loyalists say it wasn't so.

Barak maintains that he let Peres in on his plans on Thursday of last week at a brief meeting in Peres's Tel Aviv office. According to Barak, Peres had then told him unequivocally that he has no intention of standing again for prime minister in the elections scheduled for the year 2000.

That statement, Barak insists, was the green light that allowed him to go ahead with his announcement. Had Peres not conferred his blessing, Barak claims, he would not have announced his candidacy for the Labor leadership and the party's nomination for prime minister.

The one obvious flaw with Barak's story is the fact that the Beit Hahayal hall in Tel Aviv, in which he planned a gathering of his supporters to presumably break the news, was booked for last Tuesday far in advance of the meeting with Peres a few days before. Barak claims that what

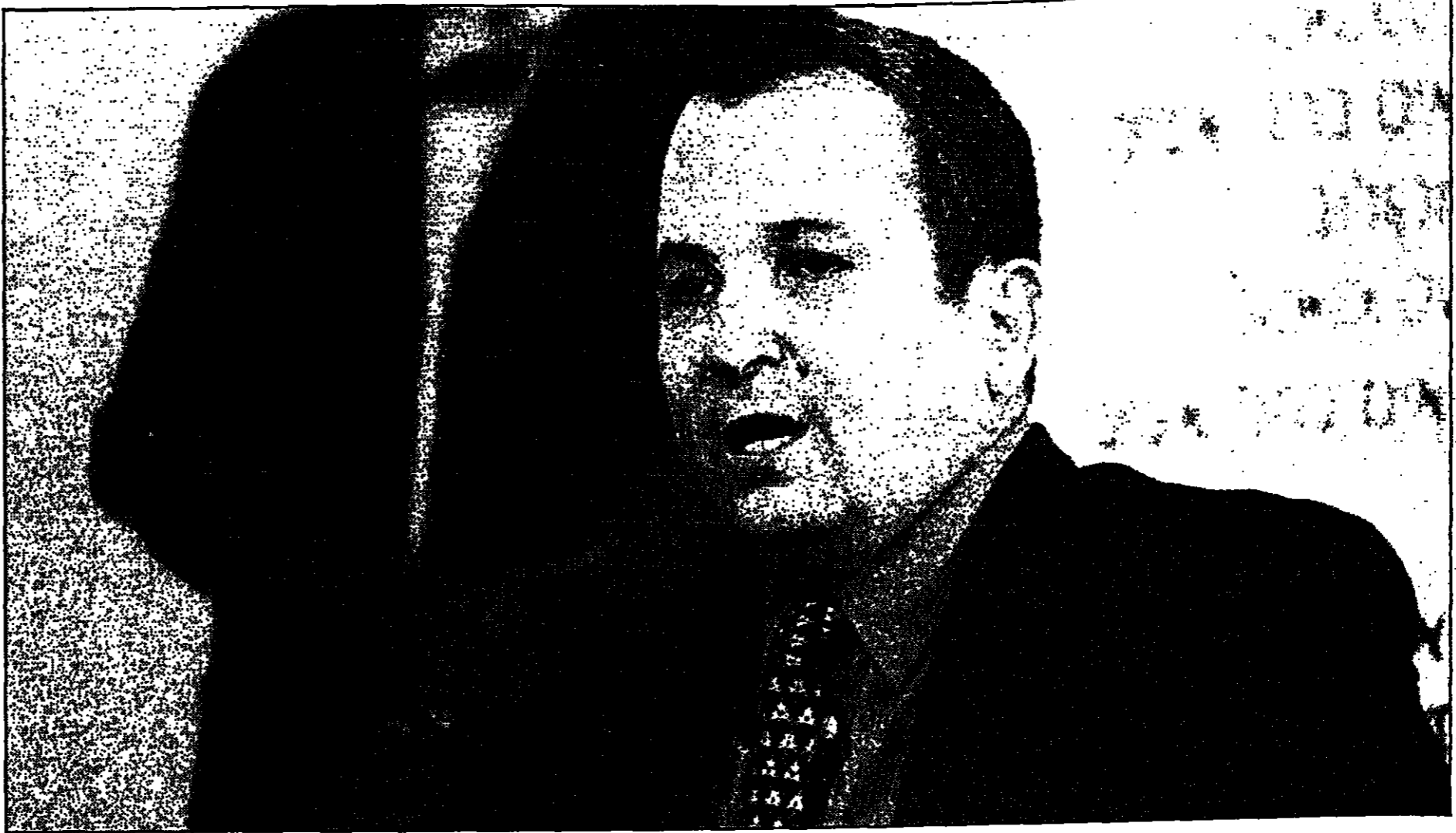
was to take place in Beit Hahayal had nothing to do with his plans and was limited to a Rosh Hashana toast for about a thousand of Labor's who's who. Anyway, as things turned out, Barak's sidekicks could not contain themselves and spilled the beans about his bid for the party leadership before Barak's guests convened. This forced Barak to make his announcement at a hastily-summoned press conference a day earlier.

Be that as it may, according to the Peres side, Barak heard nothing clear-cut from Peres about his plans. In fact, no one heard anything binding from Peres and the feeling in all quarters of the party was that Peres is hedging his bet and has not ruled anything out — not even running again. The assumption in Labor was that, if he could, Peres would put off the leadership showdown so that the new party chief would be chosen in 1999, a year before the elections, rather than in June 1997, as now scheduled. With his peremptory move, Barak may have taken Peres on and foiled whatever Peres may have had in mind.

Peres, it is hotly maintained around him, not only did not give Barak anything like a go-ahead signal, but he heard not so much as a hint from Barak about plans to announce his candidacy and certainly not that this would be done so immediately, while Peres is away in the US.

The first Peres heard of what is about to take place, his people claim, was after the rumors about Barak's impending announcement were in full circulation last Sunday. Barak then tracked Peres down by phone in an American airport just before Peres was to board a flight that would take him to New York. Peres deserved better, argue such proteges of his as MKs Yossi Beilin and Dalia Itzik.

Peres himself sounded irked on radio interviews when he snapped that if Barak wants to run "it's his



Barak's hawkishness could make him as valuable a political asset as Rabin was in 1992.

right," but that no one has to right to announce in his name what he plans for the year 2000. "I will speak on my own behalf and make my own announcements when I see fit and when the time is right," Peres continued in the same piqued tone.

Peres may deny that he took umbrage and Barak may deny that he challenged Peres and behaved disrespectfully and unsympathetically towards him, but the near consensus in Labor is that Peres is very hurt. According to Barak's likely opponent MK Haim Ramon, "Peres has been a sad man ever since his loss to Bibi. Every time I see him, my eyes moisten. I feel for him."

It wasn't very long ago when Ramon and Peres were the worst of enemies. This was after Ramon switched from the Peres side to back Yitzhak Rabin in his leadership challenge against Peres prior to the 1992 elections. Ramon then went on to shake the foundations of the Peres powerbase when he defeated the party machine in the Histadrut elections and then set in motion the Histadrut's disintegration. Most recently Ramon has become the party's whipping boy and his campaign strategy is roundly blamed for the May electoral debacle. Ramon is regarded as being at the lowest ebb of his political career, which is why it would serve him as much as Peres to postpone the leadership contest as much as possible.

This of course is precisely why Barak must make sure that nothing is put off and he must seize the moment right now. Barak somehow survived the last elections as Labor's sole spotless player. His boosters portray him as one who warned all along that Ramon was mismanaging the campaign and that everyone was underestimating Netanyahu and not taking his tenaciousness and proven ability into consideration.

But there are many other reasons for Barak being the great Labor hope for the next elections. The foremost reason is that he has so much in common with Netanyahu. Both hail from the same elite IDF unit and both are hawkish. In fact Barak was such a thorn in the Rabin government's peace offensive that it was not certain that he would join Labor when he left the military. Some thought the Likud nearly as likely an option for Barak, had it perhaps not been for his kibbutz background and the fact that Labor was the party of power with more to offer.

His past outspoken hawkishness may have made Barak anathema

to many on the Labor left who do not quite trust his commitment to the Peres-Beilin version of the peace process. Barak is often regarded as a Netanyahu clone and even his attempt to take over his party so soon after the electoral defeat is seen as a leaf out of the book Netanyahu wrote when he conquered the Likud in 1992.

But Barak's similarity to Netanyahu and his very hawkishness could make him as valuable a political asset as Rabin was in

1992. He could become another Mr. Security and do to Netanyahu what Rabin did to Yitzhak Shamir — lure the voters floating between Labor and the Likud.

This is perhaps what Barak meant, when, in making his announcement this week, he talked about "returning Labor to its natural position in the political map." The significance of what may have sounded like so much palaver was lost while Labor was debating whether

Peres was shabbily treated. Not enough attention was paid when Barak opined that "it is high time Labor got back to the center of the political arena. Labor must stop its movement farther and farther to the leftist fringes. Labor must once again become a

centrist party in which peace-seekers from left and right alike can find common cause with all those who seek security and personal safety."

In other words, Barak talked about making a secure peace. Sounds familiar?

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Friday, September 13, 1996

Shohat defends Labor's record

DAVID HARRIS

IN 1994, the Labor government did not stray from the path of fiscal consolidation...

Netanyahu: Gov't worried about drop in revenues

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE government will go ahead with the planned budget cut of NIS 4.9 billion for 1997...

Finance Minister Dan Meridor to discuss the timing of the budget restraint and interest restraint...

government will privatize more than has ever been privatized in the past...

to-four year period. Meridor warned government employees that they will not receive similar wage hikes...

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Table with 4 columns: Currency (deposit term), 3 MONTHS, 6 MONTHS, 12 MONTHS. Rows include U.S. dollar, Pound sterling, German mark, Swiss franc, Yen.

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates\* (12.9.96)

Table with 4 columns: Currency, Buy, Sell, Banknotes, Rep. Rows include U.S. dollar, German mark, Pound sterling, Japanese yen, Dutch florin, Swiss franc, Canadian dollar, Australian dollar, S. African rand, Belgian franc, Austrian schilling, Italian lira, Jordanian dinar, Egyptian pound, Irish punt, Spanish peseta.

\*These rates vary according to bank. \*\*Bank of Israel. SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

Bezeq, Tadiran in deal on switching gear

JUDY SIEGEL

BEZEQ reached an agreement with Tadiran Communications this week on the sale of switching equipment...

2000. Bezeq will thus be able to invest 25% more in infrastructure for the same price.



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ANNOUNCEMENT



ARES-SERONO SETTLEMENT HAS BEEN APPROVED BY U.S. DISTRICT COURT

The settlement offer of \$26 less fees and expenses, not to exceed \$1.00, to InterPharm shareholders...

If you held InterPharm shares on May 6, 1994, ask your investment representative (bank or broker) to contact E. Shalev Ltd. at 03-526-2666 as soon as possible.



Danish company seeks distributor/builder for the construction of houses...

ISRAEL AIRPORTS AUTHORITY LAND BORDER TERMINALS New Winter Time Operating Hours With the transition to winter time on September 15, 1996...

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Eisenberg launches council promoting China-Israel relations

GREER FAY CASHMAN

PREEMPTING the fifth anniversary celebrations of the forging of diplomatic ties between China and Israel, billionaire industrialist Shoul Eisenberg and former ambassador to China Zev Sufot...

Eisenberg, whose personal associations with China span more than half a century, recalled that he had first fled to that country in 1941 "as a German Jew without papers."

It was a refuge for many Jews escaping the Nazis," he said. It was a very emotional experience, he said, to visit Shanghai as an Israeli citizen "with my president."

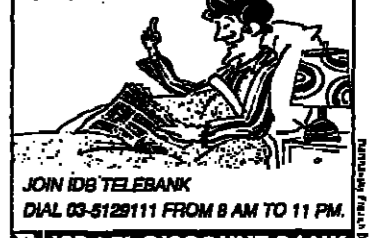
Eisenberg accompanied then president Chaim Herzog on his official state visit to China four years ago. During the visit, he took Herzog to see the world's largest glass manufacturing plant, which he owns in partnership with the Bank of China.

Herzog has agreed to become the patron of the council, of which Eisenberg and Sufot are chairman and deputy chairman respectively, and Labor Party chairman Shimon Peres is the council's honorary president.

Herzog observed that "we are establishing economic relations with what will be the greatest economic power in the world in the near future."

Both Eisenberg and Sufot made special mention of Chinese Ambassador Wang Ching Yi, who was one of the architects of China-Israel relations, and who secretly came to Israel to help create the framework for diplomatic exchanges.

Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.



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NYSE STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

Table with columns for Index Name, Last, Change. Includes DJ Industrials, DJ 30, NYSE Composite, etc.

NYSE stocks

Table with columns for Stock Name, Last, Change. Includes Amgen, Bristol Myers Squibb, etc.

Other stock market indexes

Table with columns for Index Name, Last, Change. Includes FTSE 100, Nikkei, etc.

Israeli stocks in NY

Table with columns for Stock Name, Last, Change. Includes Amman, Axa, etc.

US dollar crossrates

Table with columns for Currency, Last, Change. Includes Pound, DM, Franc, etc.

Labor rates

Table with columns for Rate Type, Last, Change. Includes Hourly, Weekly, etc.

Foreign financial data

Table with columns for Country, Metric, Value. Includes Germany, France, UK, etc.

US commodities

Table with columns for Commodity Name, Last, Change. Includes Corn, Soybean, etc.

London commodities

Table with columns for Commodity Name, Last, Change. Includes Copper, Lead, etc.

Spot market metals

Table with columns for Metal Name, Last, Change. Includes Gold, Silver, etc.

New York metal prices

Table with columns for Metal Name, Last, Change. Includes Gold, Silver, etc.

London metal prices

Table with columns for Metal Name, Last, Change. Includes Gold, Silver, etc.

Currency cross rates

Table with columns for Currency Pair, Buy, Sell. Includes DM/US, SF/US, etc.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Main stock market table with columns for Name, Price, Change, % Change, Volume, etc. Divided into Multi-sided trading and Two-sided trading.

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INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Large table of international stock prices organized by country: NEW YORK, EUROPEAN, ASIA, etc.

Teva, Tadiran lead shares up

SHARES rose yesterday, led by Teva Pharmaceutical Industries, which got US clearance to market a drug, and Tadiran Ltd., a subsidiary of which won a contract to supply equipment to Bezeq.

Iraq fears hike oil, FTSE closes at record

LONDON (Reuters) - Talk of possible US attacks on Iraq pushed world oil prices to post Gulf War peaks yesterday, while London's FTSE Index closed at a record high on the back of a strong Wall Street.

Dow approaches new highs WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (AP) - The Dow Jones industrial average flirted with new highs yesterday as the latest inflation figures eased worries the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates sharply to slow the economy.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Table of currency exchange rates for various countries: MARK, STERLING, SF, FF.















# A-G: No reason to investigate Suissa

THERE are no grounds for a criminal investigation against Interior Minister Eli Suissa, Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair decided yesterday.

Ben-Yair was ruling on a complaint by David Mir, who heads a company called Mekor which owned land in Jerusalem expropriated in 1991 for the Har Homa project. Mir has since fought the project bitterly.

On March 19, the Jerusalem District Court issued an injunction forbidding the regional planning and building committee, which was chaired at the time by Suissa, from approving the Har Homa plan. The committee approved the plan that same day, however, and Mir charged that it did so illegally, in violation of the court order. Furthermore, he claimed, Suissa falsified and destroyed evidence relating to this crime.

However, a preliminary police

EVELYN GORDON

inquiry revealed that the plan was approved before the court order arrived at the committee's offices, and the approval was therefore legal. No evidence was uncovered to support any of Mir's other charges. Therefore, there is no justification for a broader investigation, Ben-Yair said.

In other news, Ben-Yair formally asked the Knesset to lift Likud MK Ehud Olmert's parliamentary immunity, so he can stand trial on charges of aggravated fraud, falsifying corporate documents, tax code violations, and a violation of the Party Funding Law (making a false declaration to the state comptroller). The Knesset House Committee will begin discussing the request when the Knesset returns after the holidays.

All the charges relate to the Likud's 1988 election campaign,

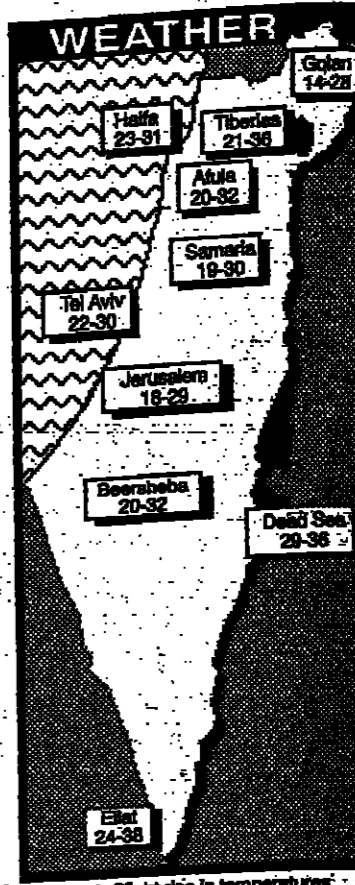
during which Olmert served as party treasurer. According to the draft indictment, Olmert told Yona Peled - one of the heads of a non-profit organization raising funds for the party - to solicit money from businesses, and in exchange give them fictitious receipts indicating that the money was spent on advertising.

Olmert omitted this money from the report he later filed with State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat, thereby deceiving her into giving the party a clean bill of health for its finances. This enabled the Likud to receive the remainder of its campaign funding - NIS 2.148 million - from the government.

Peled and eight others were convicted of their share in the scam by the Tel Aviv District Court in March. No indictment was filed against Olmert before now because Ben-Yair was waiting to see the outcome of this trial.



Shlomo Abukrat of Moshav Tzelaon sounds the shofar during *shihot* prayers yesterday at the Western Wall. (Joe Malcolm)



Forecast: Slight rise in temperatures; Rosh Hashana: warmer.

## Nurses plan strike on Monday

A STRIKE by the nurses in the public hospitals, scheduled to begin last Sunday but postponed due to a labor court arrangement, is on again. The nurses' union said the strike will start on Monday morning due to "foot-dragging" by the Health and Finance ministries.

A week ago, Tel Aviv Regional Labor Court Judge Sara Meiri was asked by the Health Ministry for restraining orders against the nurses,

JUDY SIEGEL

who are demanding an increase in nurses' job slots to cope with the growing number and needs of patients. But, after ministry representatives agreed to enter talks, the strike threat and the request for restraining orders were postponed.

Both sides agreed to enter serious talks to deal with hospital manpower problems and report back to the

court yesterday. But union head Ilana Cohen charged that government representatives behaved "improperly and stubbornly," with the intention of "fooling the labor court and wasting time." Thus the union said it would strike at all public hospitals - those owned by the government, Kupat Holim Clalit and voluntary organizations such as Hadassah and Shaare Zedek - immediately after Rosh Hashana.

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Calcutta	22	28	cloudy
Chicago	10	16	cloudy
Frankfurt	10	16	cloudy
Hong Kong	22	28	cloudy
London	10	16	cloudy
Los Angeles	10	16	cloudy
Moscow	10	16	cloudy
New York	10	16	cloudy
Paris	10	16	cloudy
Stockholm	10	16	cloudy
Tokyo	10	16	cloudy
Toronto	10	16	cloudy

Father runs over daughter

Yarden Bizawi, 18 months, was killed in Eilat yesterday when her father accidentally ran her over with his car. Yarden and her mother had gotten out of the car to let the father continue driving on, when the toddler jumped out of her mother's arms and ran in front of the vehicle.

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